

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 11 with the following amended paragraph:

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FIG. 2 illustrates that inner member 12 is also preferably equipped with one or more receptacles 24 and 26 or other locking means so that restricting devices can be attached to the inner member in order to lock the inner member into one or more positions. For example, FIG. 2 illustrates receptacles 24 and 26 as being holes, located, for example, on a side surface of the inner member 12 through which a pin may be passed. The diameter of the pin is preferably slightly larger than the diameter of the hole so that the pin requires some amount of force to be inserted into the hole and does not fall out of the hole without force being applied. When inner member 12 is passed through outer member 16, pins may be then inserted into the receptacles 24 and/or 26 to prevent the handle from extending or retracting past the position of the pin. Optionally, outer member 16 may be equipped with a sleeve or collar 34 such as is illustrated in FIG. 4. Sleeve 34 includes one or more notches or grooves 30 and 32 designed to receive the pins and hold the inner member and outer member in place relative to each other without expansion or retraction during operation of the handle. Other locking mechanisms, such as grooves or notches instead of receptacles, or entirely different devices such as latches, hooks, or clips, may also be used to restrict extension and/or retraction of the handle.
